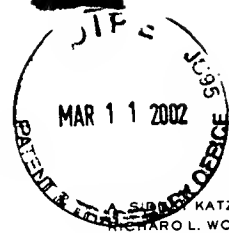


GAU/1732



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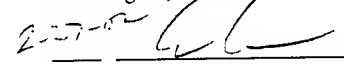
* ALSO ADMITTED IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Patent Application of Tarahomi et al.
Serial No. 09/997,670
Filed: November 29, 2001
ENERGY ABSORBING EXTERNAL
COMPONENT FOR VEHICLE
Our File No. 7104-83736

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Dear Sir:


Enclosed herewith are the following:

1. Transmittal Letter (in duplicate);
2. Preliminary Amendment (in duplicate); and
3. Postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Very truly yours,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

By 
Eric D. Cohen

83736



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Tarahomi et al.

Serial No.: 09/997,670

Filed: November 29, 2001

For: ENERGY ABSORBING
EXTERNAL COMPONENT
FOR VEHICLE

Primary
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: 1732

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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This communication is a preliminary amendment for the above-identified patent application.

Please enter this preliminary amendment prior to consideration on the merits.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the paragraph identified below and replace it with the following replacement paragraph, such that the replacement paragraph is shown immediately below with all changes (e.g., additions, deletions, modifications) included, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.121(b)(1).

Delete the 1st paragraph on page 1 of the specification immediately after the heading entitled

"Cross-Reference To Related Applications," and replace it with the following paragraph:

This patent application is a continuation-in-part of and claims the benefit of priority from copending patent application Serial No. 09/797,275, filed on March 1, 2001, entitled Automobile Interior Components That Satisfy Impact

Al